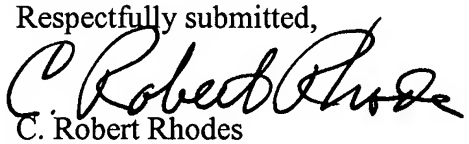
contain the term, and are herein amended. Additionally, Claims 9, 12, 31, and 40 also are herein amended.

Claims 1-13 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claims 1-13 of copending Application No. 09/860,423. Based upon the provisional nature of the rejection, Applicant is not yet required to respond.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 2, 2003
File No.: 3781-22 (0024.1)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

B1 2. (Amended) The protective cover of Claim 1 wherein said fabric is formed from at least 70 percent high performance[-strength] yarns.

B2 9. (Amended) The protective [protection] cover of Claim 8 wherein said means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges comprises hook and loop material.

B3 12. (Amended) The protective [protection] cover of Claim 11 wherein said means for fastening said opposed longitudinal edges comprises hook and loop material.

B4 28. (Amended) The system of Claim 27 wherein said fabric is formed from at least 70 percent high performance [-strength] yarns.

B5 31. (Twice Amended) The system [protective cover] of Claim 27 wherein said high performance yarns are formed from polymers selected from the group consisting of long chain polyethylenes, high strength aramids, liquid crystal polymers, and combinations thereof.

B6 40. (Twice Amended) An abrasion-resistant rope that must be periodically moved or pulled across abrasive surfaces [services] comprising an outer protective layer formed substantially from high performance yarns having a tensile modulus equal to or greater than 150 grams/denier and a tenacity equal to or greater than 7 grams/denier so that the protective layer is abrasion-resistant, cut-resistant, and tear-resistant.